

A  
RELATION  
OF THE  
Miraculous Cure

OF  
Mrs. *LYDIA HILLS*,  
OF

A *Lameness* of Seventeen  
or Eighteen Years continuance,  
and extraordinary *Pains* attend-  
ing it, on *Saturday* the 17th.  
of *November*, 1694.

With her DEPOSITION of the  
Same before the Right Honourable  
Sir *Thomas Lane*, Lord Mayor of  
the City of *London*.

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The Second Edition, with Additions.

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L O N D O N :

Printed by *W. Wilde*, MDCXCVI.



According to the Contents of this  
NARRATIVE, I have made Oath  
before my Lord Mayor, as followeth:

**L**Ydia Hills, Spinster, aged Forty Years, or  
thereabouts, maketh Oath, That she this De-  
ponent hath, for the space of Seventeen Years  
now last past, been Lame in this Deponent's  
Hyp, so that this Deponent could not go without  
the Assistance of some Persons to lead her: And  
that on the Seventeenth of November last,  
she this Deponent received such perfect Strength  
in all her Limbs, that she can walk about very  
well, without the Help of Crutches, or any Per-  
son whatsoever. And this Deponent saith, That  
she this Deponent did not use or apply any out-  
ward Means for the said Cure.

Lydia Hills.

*Jur. 12 die Decemb.  
1694 coram me,*

Thomas Lane, Mayor.

The said *Lydia Hills* liveth at Mr. *Ecop's*,  
a Taylor, next Door to the Clothworkers-  
Arms in Great Trinity-Lane, London; where  
she will be ready to attest the Truth of this  
Narrative.

Decemb. 6. 1694.

The TESTIMONY of  
*LYDIA HILLS,*

CONCERNING

Her Wonderful CURE, and Restoration from LAMENESS and PAINS Extraordinary.

**T**HE God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ knoweth that I lie not ; but do deliberately utter the *certain Truth*, and in serious consideration of the *Account* I must shortly make to the Great Judge, for all that I *speake* and *do*.

Twenty two Years ago, upon a Lord's Day, as I was going home from the Worship of God, in a Shower of Rain, I ran hastily to get out of the Rain, and having Pattens on, fell down with a great force, and bruised my Right Hip, which was Defective before: But I was not sensible of the  
Hurt



Hurt I then received, till some Months after, and then I grew worse and worse by degrees, for Five Years ; about the end of which time I became very bad, and a little time after I was carried into the Hospital, where I lay a Year before the Chirurgions could see any Appearance of Amendment ; in which time, I was not able to go with Crutches, but was in great Torture ; but it was near two Years before I could go with two Hand-Crutches, about which time I was put out, being as well as the Chirurgeon could make me, (as he said ;) tho' even then I could not go without two Hand-Crutches, and was in great pain.

After that, I was taken into the Hospital two several times, being very bad still, and in the revolution of a few Years, I was under the Hands of Mr. *Maschall*, being under extream pain, and having been tortured by the other Chirurgions, who opened my Wounds again, and took out a Splinter, and declared the Bone was foul ; and then I said, I never expected to go without Crutches more, except the Lord should work a Miracle : But I

said, this was not a time for working Miracles ; if it were, I would look for it. I was then under so great Pain, that I, nor others, did expect my Recovery ; insomuch that it was about half a Year before I could go with two Hand-Crutches : But when I was at the best, I was not free from pain.

Lame and in Pain I continued for several Years after that, and was not under any Chirurgion, till about Three Years before the Lord was pleased to restore me to my Limbs ; at which time, Mr. *Thomson* was employed for my Help ( I being then under extream Pain ) who, as the former Chirurgions, opened my Wound, and declared the Bone to be foul ; at the hearing of which, I hoped my Life would not be long, tho' I was afraid of a long lingering Sicknes before Death. But I begged of the Lord, that he would grant me a submissive Will to his Dispensations in all things ; for I found great Selfishness in me, in desiring Death for the sake of being delivered from Sorrow and Pain ; yet thro' Grace, in a strict Examination of my Heart, I was let to see, that the Bent of my Heart  
was

was rather desirous of Death, that I might be freed from Sin, and to be with Christ, than to be releas'd from Pain and Sorrow : But the Lord was pleas'd to make me know, that it was my Duty to be contented to live and suffer what the Lord ( for wise and gracious ends ) should be pleas'd to inflict upon me. I did then beg of God, that he would give me some Token, whereby I might know whether I should live or dye ; and ( I bleſs his Name ) he gave me my Desire, after I had been earnestly seeking the Lord in Prayer, by bringing those Words with power to my Mind, *John 11. 4. This Sickness is not unto Death, but for the Glory of God.*

Now after that, I was under great pain, which was so violent, that had it continued long, I thought I could not have continued ; yet, because the Lord had given me that Word, I did believe I should not dye in that Sickness, tho' it was far from my Thoughts of being so Restored to my Limbs as to go without Crutches ; and being under the said Chirurgion's Hands Half a Year, ( whose Means were the last that

was used :) After which, I continued  
 Lame and in Pain so, that I could not  
 go with two Hand-Crutches (without  
 Help) from that time, till the Lord  
 was pleased to Restore me ; so that I  
 had no Expectation of being healed, but  
 of being worse ; for I thought at the  
 last it would be my Death. But when  
 I heard of the young Frenchwoman  
 that was miraculously healed, I thought  
 with my self, If the Lord be pleased to  
 work Miracles on others, he is able to  
 do the same for me ; and immediately  
 that Word was brought to my Mind,  
*Mark 9. 23. If thou canst believe, all  
 things are possible :* But I could not then  
 act Faith on that Promise ; yet I thought,  
 that if the Lord (who had done such  
 great things for my Soul) should be  
 pleased to add such a Mercy as to Re-  
 store my Limbs, it would be very won-  
 derful ; the Thoughts whereof did much  
 affect me, and melt me into Tears, with  
 the sense of his amazing Goodness and  
 Mercy to me, that he should not only  
 work so great a Deliverance for my  
 Soul, but that he should also give me  
 some Hopes, that he would deliver my  
 Body out of that Affliction : But I did  
 not



not look for this Miracle to be wrought immediately, as soon as I thought of it, thinking that the Lord would do it for me in a way of Prayer and waiting upon him. Then did I cast my self at the Feet of Christ, and with humble Submission to his Will, did beg of the Lord, that if it might be for his Glory, that he would be pleased to Restore my Limbs ; and the Lord strengthened my Faith by degrees, and was pleased to give me that Word in *Mat. 21. 21. If ye have Faith, and doubt not, it shall be done.*

About half a Year before it was done, I had great Confidence that the Lord would Restore me in his due time ; and I did speak of it to Friends, but none did believe it. — Reading of the Miracles that Christ did when he was upon the Earth, that did much affect me, *Luke 13.* of the Woman that was bowed down Eighteen Years under a Spirit of Infirmary, and yet Christ healed her : And I may truly say, I was bowed down Eighteen Years under great Affliction, the strength of my Days being spent in Sorrow and Pain.



Three several times I did expect that the Lord would be pleased to heal me ; the first was Half a Year before it was done ; the second time was in *June* ; and the last was in *November*, the Time when it was done ; at which time I had the greatest Expectations, tho' in the mean time many Doubts did arise : Sometimes I thought, It may be the Lord would have me to wait a Year longer ; to which I answered in my Mind, If the Lord will have me to wait longer, I will still wait and hope till the Lord appear for my Deliverance. But my Faith was ebbing and flowing again ; and I thought within my self, that there was no particular Promise from the Word of God, that I could apply for my being healed : But while I was thinking of it, that Word was brought to me, *2 Kings 20. 5. I will heal thee* ; tho' I did not know it was in the Scripture, till afterwards, when I was glad to find it there. And that Word was brought unto me, which the Lord spake to *Lazarus* : *This Sickness is not unto Death, but for the Glory of God.* Which was an Argument to me, to go to God by Prayer, and plead with

with him, That as his Wisdom had suffered *Lazarus* to dye, that his Holy Name might be the more exalted, in Raising him from the Dead ; so I being now dead as it were to all humane Help, his Glory would be more advanced to heal me now, then if it had been done some Years ago. About Three Months before it was done, I was thinking the Time was coming ; (which was the Third time of my Expectation) and, thro' Divine Assistance, my Resolutions were raised to hope for it ; at which time, that Word was given to me, *Hab. 2. 3. For the Vision is for an appointed time ; but at the end it shall speak, and not Lye : though it tarry, wait for it : it will surely come, it will not tarry.* This Word did much encourage me to hope for it at that time ; and a little after that, I had Three Places of Scripture given me ; one was, *Acts 10.* about the Sheet that was let down three times from Heaven ; another was, *2 Cor. 12.* when the Apostle *Paul* had a Messenger of Satan sent, he besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from him ; and the other was, *Luk. 13. 32. Go tell the Fox, behold I cast out Devils,*

*vils, and do Cures to Day and to Morrow, and the third Day I shall be perfected.* These Three places of Scripture were set home to me by the Spirit of God, and were of great use to strengthen my Faith, that the Lord would help me.

The Third Day of *November*, I had a sudden Impulse upon my Spirits, that the Lord would heal me very soon: The next Day that Word was given to me, *John 14. 18. I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you.* On the Fifth of *November*, as I was thinking and admiring the great Goodness and Mercy of God to me, I had another Word given me, *Mat. 16. 17. Blessed art thou; for Flesh and Blood hath not revealed this unto thee, but my Father which is in Heaven.* That Word was often in my Mind, *It shall be done.*

The Day before I expected this great Mercy, I found my self in a very dull and dead frame, altogether unfit for receiving so great a Mercy, as the next Day I expected to receive; which was very grievous to me: Yet I continued so all that Night, and in the Morning waking, I was thinking what great Things the Lord was about to do for me,

me, and that Word was given me, *2 Kings 20. Behold I will heal thee, and on the third day thou shalt go to the house of the Lord.* Now the Morrow after it was done, was the Third Sabbath on which I was so fully perswaded that I should be healed, in which I was more confirm'd by those Words: And then the Lord was pleased to pour out his Spirit upon me, and melt me into Tears, that he should shew such Mercy to me, who am less than the least of all his Mercies; at which time I had a sence of my own Vileness, and that encreased the Mercy in my sight. And after I arose, my Heart was much raised; and I had great confidence in Prayer, that the Lord would heal me; and when I arose from Prayer, that Word was given me, *Luke 1. 13. Thy Prayer is heard.* About the space of Four Hours before and after I arose, I was in an Extasie of Tears till I had no more power to weep: (This was the Fifteenth Day of *November*, the Day I did expect to be healed on, it being a Remarkable Day to me.) But I continued as I was before, that Day, and the next; and the next Day I had that Word given



ven me, *Heb. 12. 12, 13. Lift up the Hands that hang down, and the feeble Knees, and make streight Paths for your Feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.* This Word did much revive me again; for my Faith was sinking, and I was between Hopes and Fears again. And next Morning, being the 17th. of *November*, when I arose, I found my self no better than I was before; and after I had sought the Lord in Prayer, my Thoughts were much troubled: I was thinking I did believe the Lord would heal me, and yet I found it very hard to believe that God would do it so suddenly; but immediately after, in reading God's Word, I was enabled to cast out all doubts, and to throw my self at the Feet of Christ, for he is a God that cannot Lye; and I was helped to argue from the Mercy I had found, as well as his Faithfulness, when I threw my Soul at his Feet; and now seeing he had promised to heal my Body, I resolved to lie at his Feet, and believe that he would heal me: Whereupon I was in such an Exstasie, I scarce knew where I was; and taking my Bible again,



again, the first Words I set my Eye upon was, *Mat. 25. 28. O Woman, great is thy Faith; be it unto thee even as thou wilt.* Then I laid down my Bible immediately, and stood up, and upon Tryal I found my self able to walk about the Room without any Crutch, and without Pain : Which time was about Nine or Ten of the Clock in the Morning, being *Saturday, November the 17th. 1694.* and from that time to this I have used no Crutch. The next Morning before I went out, I had Doubts arising in my Heart, whether I should take out one Crutch with me, or not ; but that Word was set with power on my Heart, *John 20. 21. Be not faithless, but believing.* Then did I go to the Worship of God, without fear of wanting a Crutch ; and, through the wonderful Mercy of God, I was able to walk in the Street without the Help of a Crutch, and through the same Mercy of God I do continue, and my Strength doth rather encrease than decrease, and I can go without Crutches with ease : Whereas, for near Seventeen Years before, I was not able to go without Two Crutches ; and several

veral times in those Years I was confined to my Bed a great while together.

Blessed be God, he hath remembered the low Estate of his poor and unworthy Handmaiden, because his Mercy endureth for ever. Blessed be his Holy Name, he hath not turned away my Prayer, nor his Mercy from me,

Lydia Hills.

Testified in the Presence of us,

Israel Mayo,	Jeremy Smith,
William Castellaw,	Eliezer Heywood,
Daniel Burgeſs,	Zachary Merrel.
William Taylor,	

FINIS.

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**The SUMME  
OF  
CHRISTIANITY.**

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*Read distinctly.*

*Learn industriously.*

*Consider seriously.*

*Believe firmly.*

*Pray devoutly.*

*Repent sincerely.*

*Love fervently.*

*Resolve deliberately.*

*Practice constantly.*

*Hope patiently.*

*Receive thankfully.*

*And so*

*Dye peaceably.*

*And*

*Live eternally.*

